

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENNA 00297 131739Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----008476 131740Z /43
O 131730Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4710
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

S E C R E T VIENNA 00297

EXDIS

USIAEA

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: MNUC, IAEA, TW
SUBJECT: ROC NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS

REF: A) STATE 9239, B) TAIPEI 210, C) STATE 5719,
D) TAIPEI 193

1. QUITE BY CHANCE WHEN I WAS WAITING FOR A PREVIOUS VISITOR TO DEPART BEFORE I ENTERED DIRECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, THE VISITOR TURNED OUT TO BE VICTOR CHENG. CHENG GREETED ME IN HIS USUAL AFFABLE FASHION AND SAID THAT HE WANTED TO TALK WITH ME.

2. AFTER CONCLUDING A RATHER LENGTHY AGENDA OF ITEMS I HAD TO DISCUSS WITH THE DIRGEN, I ASKED WHAT HE HAD LEARNED FROM CHENG. DIRGEN EKLUND SAID THAT CHENG HAD INFORMED HIM THAT: TAIWAN'S FIRST POWER REACTOR WAS NOW IN OPERATION; THAT THEY HAD PUT THE PILOT REPROCESSING PLANT "OUT OF ORDER" AT US REQUEST; THAT THEY WERE NOT PRESENTLY OPERATING THE NRX REACTOR BECAUSE OF US CONCERN THERE BE STRICTER APPLICATION OF SAFEGUARDS; THAT WHILE THE US AND ROC HAD AGREED THAT IRRADIATED FUEL ELEMENTS

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VIENNA 00297 131739Z

WOULD BE STORED OUTSIDE THE ROC, THE AGREEMENT HAD NOT YET BEEN REACHED AS TO PRECISELY WHERE THEY WOULD BE STORED; AND, FINALLY, THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED THAT TRANSFER CASKS SHOULD BE SEALED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THERE WOULD NOT BE ACCESS TO THE CONTENTS WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF AN IAEA INSPECTOR.

3. WHEN I LEFT THE DIRGEN'S OFFICE, I WAS TOLD THAT MR.

CHENG WAS WAITING TO MEET WITH ME AT THE AGENCY ENTRANCE. AFTER JOINING HIM, WE PROCEEDED TO THE GOVERNORS LOUNGE AND HE CLAIMED THAT HE HAD BEEN PLANNING TO CONTACT ME DURING THE AFTERNOON. HE HAD ALREADY HAD ONE MEETING WITH THORNE, THE FAR EAST SECTION HEAD IN SAFEGUARDS DEPT, AND WAS EXPECTING TO HAVE A FURTHER MEETING LATER ON JANUARY 13. HE PLANS TO FLY TO WASHINGTON VIA NEW YORK JANUARY 14 AND WILL BE STAYING AT THE HOLIDAY INN IN GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND. ANNOUNCED PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON (AS FAR AS ROC OFFICIALDOM IS CONCERNED) IS TO DISCUSS WITH A US FIRM THE SAFETY ASPECTS OF TAIWAN'S THIRD POWER REACTOR.

4. CHENG GAVE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS TRYING TO WALK A RATHER NARROW LINE BETWEEN MEETING US REQUIREMENTS AND CONVINCING ROC OFFICIALDOM THAT HE WAS ADEQUATELY REPRESENTING ROC INTERESTS. HE SAID HE HOPED TO HAVE A QUIET MEAL WITH MENZEL TO REVIEW OUTSTANDING ISSUES. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THIS TRIP WAS DEFINITELY NOT REPEAT NOT TO BE CONSIDERED AS AN OFFICIAL NEGOTIATION BETWEEN ROC AND US. RATHER, HE CONSIDERED VISIT TO BE AN INFORMAL EXPLORATORY ONE IN ORDER TO EXPLORE OUTLINES OF AN AGREEMENT PRIOR TO OFFICIAL NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN WASHINGTON IN FEBRUARY.

5. I TOLD CHENG I WAS AWARE THAT THERE WAS SOME CONCERN
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 VIENNA 00297 131739Z

IN HIS GOVERNMENT THAT JOINT NOTIFICATION PROPOSAL MIGHT CREATE PROBLEMS WITHIN IAEA. CHENG SAID HIS EFFORTS WITH THE AGENCY WERE TO DISCUSS FURTHER THE POSSIBILITY OF WORKING OUT AN UMBRELLA SUBSIDIARY ARRANGEMENT COVERING ALL ROC NUCLEAR FACILITIES AND ONE UNDER WHICH ROC WOULD NOTIFY AGENCY AND AGENCY IN TURN AUTOMATICALLY NOTIFY USMISSION OF ANY INVENTORY CHANGE (SEE 77 VIENNA 9767).

6. I ENDEAVORED TO REASSURE CHENG THAT I DID NOT BELIEVE IT LIKELY THAT ANY MEMBER OF IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS WOULD ATTEMPT TO THROW INTO QUESTION IAEA ACTIVITIES IN ROC SINCE IT WOULD NOT APPEAR IN THEIR INTEREST TO DO SO.

7. WE WILL FOLLOW UP FURTHER WITH THORNE EARLY NEXT WEEK. STONE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ENERGY, REPORTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978VIENNA00297
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780020-0802
Format: TEL
From: VIENNA USIAEA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780163/aaaacbqa.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3fa963e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 9239, 78 TAIPEI 210, 78 STATE 5719
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3775211
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROC NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: MNUC, TW, IAEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3fa963e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014